for the event as a whole and not on match to match basis. In respect of few sporting events, the C&AG had pointed out deficiency in calculation of opportunity cost. Consequent to this, the Prasar Bharati has issued instructions in April, 1999 laying down the manner in which opportunity cost has to be calculated.

Guidelines for Uplinking of News Channels

2107. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh guidelines have been framed for uplinking of News Channels after rejection of the application of a prominent news channel; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the same channel has applied afresh for uplinking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Guidelines for uplinking of News & Current Affairs TV channels from India, issued on 26.3.2003, have been revised on 28.8.2003. The revised eligibility criteria is available on this Ministry's website *(http://. www. mib. nic. in).*

The Ministry had received an application from M/s Media Content & Communications Services (India) Pvt. Ltd. (MCCS), seeking permission to uplink their news channel namely "STAR NEWS" channel from India on 20.6.2003. However, after the revision of eligibility criteria of the guidelines on 28.8.2003, MCCS was advised to conform to the provisions laid down in the revised eligibility criteria. As such, MCCS has submitted fresh application on 22.9.2003, for permission to uplink STAR NEWS channel from India.

Permission for KU Band Signals

2108. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requesting the Central Government to permit cable TV operators to receive KU-Band signals for televising educational programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action contemplated or proposed to contemplate thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) A proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for allowing Cable TV operators in the State to receive and distribute Ku-band signals through their networks for dissemination of high quality educational programmes to needy and isolated schools and colleges. The matter is under examination in the Ministry.

Functioning of FM Radio Stations in Karnataka

2109. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY. Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many FM radio stations are functioning in Karnataka;

(b)the places where these are fuctioning;

(c) how many FM relay centres are proposed to be upgraded; and

(d) whether any new FM radio stations would be set up in the State during 2003-04?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that twelve FM Stations as given in the Statement enclosed are functioning in the State of Karnataka. (See below)

(c) There is no proposal for upgradation of any existing FM centre in Karnataka during the 10th Five Year Plan.

(d) New 10 KW FM Stations have been proposed for Karnataka during the 10th Five Year Plan at Bellary, Sringeri & Gulbarga.